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Applicant: INBAR
Docket: 12808.10US01
Title: MARKER

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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By *Chetra Lambert*
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BOX PATENT APPLICATION
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Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal sheet, in duplicate, containing Certificate under 37 CFR 1.10.
- Utility Patent Application: Spec. 18 pgs; 47 claims; Abstract 1 pgs.
The fee has been calculated as shown below in the 'Claims as Filed' table.
- 8 sheets of formal drawings
- Verified statement to establish small entity status
- A signed Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney
- Assignment of the invention to V-GEN LTD., Recordation Form Cover Sheet
- A check in the amount of \$638.00 to cover the Filing Fee
- A check for \$40.00 to cover the Assignment Recording Fee.
- Return postcard

CLAIMS AS FILED

Number of Claims Filed	In Excess of:	Number Extra	Rate	Fee
Basic Filing Fee				\$355.00
Total Claims	-			
47	20	= 27	x 9.00	\$243.00
Independent Claims				
4	3	= 1	x 40.00	\$40.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM FEE				\$0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE				\$638.00

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By: *Gregory A. Sebald*
Name: Gregory A. Sebald
Reg. No.: 33,280
Initials: GAS/tvm



SMALL BUSINESS

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY
STATUS (37 C.F.R. 1.9(f) AND 1.27(b)) – SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

1C865 U.S. PTO
09/11/16704
11/20/00

I hereby declare that I am

a) the owner of the small business concern identified below:
b) an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN: V-GEN LTD.

ADDRESS OF CONCERN: 21 Ranak Street, Tel Aviv 63464, Israel

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business as defined in 13 C.F.R. 121.801805, and reproduced in 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention, entitled **MARKER** by inventor(s) **Eran INBAR**

a) the specification filed herewith.
b) provisional application serial no. filed _____
c) non-provisional application serial no. -----, filed -----
d) patent no. , issued -----

If the rights held by the above-identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(e) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(e). * NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 C.F.R. 1.270)

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I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 C.F.R. 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereof, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

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Eran Inbar

'60

21st Ranak St. Tel-Aviv ISRAEL

DATE:

Nov -15-00

MARKER**Eran INBAR**

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to methods and systems for producing thermal beacons in general, and to methods and systems for producing thermal marking signals, in particular.

10

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Methods and devices for indicating the presence of an object in darkness (e.g., where darkness is defined as being outside the range of wavelengths invisible to the human eye) are known in the art. Infrared Radiation (IR) and Near Infrared Radiation (NIR) sources (beacons), mainly in the range of 0.7-1 micron are used in various applications as identification devices, for persons and vehicles. Near infrared light can be detected by special equipment which can translate the detected infra red image to a visible one. Different types of infrared beacons are known for use in covert security operations at night, where there is a need to be able to identify friend from foe or criminals from the police, animal watching, and the like.

These infrared beacons generally operate in the near IR range, and can be detected by image intensifiers, night vision goggles, black and

white cameras, and the like. Black body Infrared beacons operating in the thermal region, such as mid-IR (3-5 micron) and long-IR (8-12 micron) are less prevalent. These infrared beacons generally employ a black body element, which is heated to a high temperature, and emits IR radiation in the thermal region. The blinking feature of the beacon is achieved by constantly rotating the black body element, or mechanically chopping the emitted radiation. Black body Infrared beacons can be detected by thermal cameras.

US patent No. 4,912,224 to Andersen, entitled "Infrared aircraft beacon light", is directed to a near infrared aircraft lighting system for use on the exterior of aircraft in combination with an existing visible light beacon. The device includes a ring structure containing infrared source that is installed between a visible light beacon and the aircraft outer surface. The device enables pilots with night vision goggles to fly in formation, and see other aircrafts, which fly in their vicinity.

US patent No. 5,804,829 to Palmer et al., entitled "Programmable infrared signal beacon", is directed to a near infrared signal beacon, which provides a visual location signal during poor light conditions. The device can be programmed to signal at least one of a plurality of coded messages, either in the visible light range of spectrum, or in the infrared range of the spectrum. The user of the beacon can select which of the plurality of flashing sequences will be transmitted by the light sources.

US patent No. 5,225,828 to Walleston et al., entitled "Infrared identification beacon", is directed to a device for alerting friendly personnel on land, sea or air. The beacon includes at least one near infrared light emitting diode and a visible light emitting diode, providing overlap 5 conductive pole emanation of the NIR and visible light beams. The device can be steady or pulsed.

US patent No. 5,414,405 to Hogg et al., entitled "Personnel identification device", is directed to a device including a NIR LED contained within a housing. The device is adapted to be carried externally 10 by a person or an object, such as vehicles, and enables, for example, to distinguish friend from foe in dark conditions. The housing possesses a "stick-on" capability, for example a Velcro or flexible magnetic strip on a base portion. The device is preferably adapted to flash, which enables the use of coded sequences of flashes.

US patent No. 5,939,726 to Wood et al., entitled "Infrared 15 radiation source", is directed to a pulsable IR radiation source, which is intended for use in non-dispersive infrared gas analyzers. The device includes an emitting element, which is made of a narrow strip of foil. The emitting element is located in the hermetically sealed metal package with 20 inert gas, such as nitrogen, helium or a combination thereof. The foil is heated by applying electrical power. The IR source provides high efficiency radiation at infrared wavelengths, and operates in the range of

1-3 Watts of power. The IR source cannot operate at high levels of power such as 10 Watts or more.

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SUMMARY OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide a method and a system for emitting pulsed infra red radiation, which overcomes the disadvantages of the prior art.

5 In accordance with the present invention, there is thus provided an emitter controller including a controller, and a power amplifier. The controller is connected to a power source. The power amplifier is connected to the controller, the power source and to an emitter. The controller provides a pulse sequence to the power amplifier for operating
10 the emitter, and the controller determines the pulse sequence according to an available power voltage level.

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, there is thus provided a method for operating an emitter controller. The method includes the steps of detecting a voltage level of a power signal, 15 determining a heating time period, and producing a pulse signal. The power signal is provided to the emitter. The heating time period is determined according to the detected voltage level, and a target heating temperature. The pulse signal is produced according to the heating time period, for operating the power amplifier at the detected voltage level.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention will be understood and appreciated more fully from the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the drawings in which:

5 Figure 1 is a schematic illustration of an apparatus, constructed and operative in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention;

10 Figure 2 is a schematic illustration of an apparatus, constructed and operative in accordance with another preferred embodiment of the 10 present invention;

15 Figure 3 is a schematic illustration of a method for operating the system of Figure 2, operative in accordance with a further preferred embodiment of the present invention;

20 Figure 4 is schematic illustration of a system, constructed and operative in accordance with another preferred embodiment of the present invention;

25 Figure 5 is a schematic illustration of an infrared radiation emitter, constructed and operative in accordance with a further preferred embodiment of the present invention;

30 Figure 6 is a schematic illustration of a high power infrared radiation emitter, constructed and operative in accordance with another preferred embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 7A is a schematic illustration of a long-range multi-directional case, constructed and operative in accordance with a further preferred embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 7B is a schematic illustration of a long-range 5 omni-directional case, constructed and operative in accordance with another preferred embodiment of the present invention; and

Figure 7C is a schematic illustration of a medium-range omni-directional case, constructed and operative in accordance with a further preferred embodiment of the present invention.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The present invention overcomes the disadvantages of the prior art by providing a clear beacon blinking mechanism (black/white i.e., hot/cold) which blinks at a frequency of from a few part of Hz to several Hz. A blinking frequency in the range of 1-2 Hz was found by the inventor to be optimal, from an ergonomic (human factor engineering) point of view.

Reference is now made to Figure 1, which is a schematic illustration of an apparatus, generally referenced 100, constructed and operative in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention. Apparatus 100 includes a power source 102, a pulse driver 104 and a pulsable infrared emitter 106. Pulse driver 104 is connected to power source 102 and to pulsable infrared emitter 106.

Power source 102 can either produce alternating or direct electrical power. Power source 102 provides the electrical power to pulse driver 104. Pulse driver 104 produces a predetermined periodic electrical pulse, and provides the periodic electrical pulse to pulsable infrared emitter 106. The periodic electrical pulses periodically heat pulsable infrared emitter 106, thereby producing periodic thermal radiation. Hence, apparatus 100 blinks at thermal IR wavelengths (which are mid-IR and long-IR, at ranges of 3-5 and 8-12 microns, respectively).

Reference is now made to Figure 2, which is a schematic illustration of an apparatus, generally referenced 110, constructed and operative in

accordance with another preferred embodiment of the present invention. Apparatus 110 includes a voltage multiplier 112, a voltage regulator 114, a micro-controller 116, a power amplifier 118, an infra red emitter 120 and an indicator 122. Voltage regulator 114 is connected to voltage multiplier 112 and micro-controller 116. Voltage multiplier 112 is further connected to a power cell (not shown). Micro-controller 116 is further connected to power amplifier 118, to the power cell, and to indicator 122. Power amplifier 118 is further connected to the power cell, and to infra red emitter 120. Infra red emitter 120, and indicator 122 are further connected to the power cell.

The power cell provides voltage V_S to voltage multiplier 112. Voltage multiplier 112 multiplies the voltage V_S by a factor of more than one, and provides voltage V_M to voltage regulator 114. Voltage regulator 114 produces a constant, regulated voltage level V_R and provides it to micro controller 116.

A conventional power cell is characterized by a diminishing voltage curve as it is drained further and further. Therefore, it is likely that the voltage will drop below a predetermined minimal level V_{min} , while the power cell still has enough power to drive the apparatus for an additional period of time. The combination of voltage multiplier 112 and voltage regulator 114 provides a constant regulated operating voltage to micro-controller 116, even after V_S has dropped below V_{min} .

Micro-controller 116 measures V_S and dynamically determines the characteristics of the next pulse. It is noted that micro-controller 116 can use V_R as a reference in the measurement of V_S .

The infra red emitter 120 has to be heated to a predetermined 5 temperature in order to be detected by a thermal camera. In general, the power amplifier 118 has to provide a certain amount of energy E to infra red emitter 120 for this purpose. Higher amounts of energy might damage the infra red emitter 120, or prevent rapid cooling thereof. Lower amounts of energy might not heat infrared emitter 120 to temperatures high enough 10 for the thermal camera to detect infrared emitter 120.

It is noted that the energy supplied by the power cell, is proportional to the heating time period T_H and the applied voltage $V_S - V_{PA}$, where V_{PA} denotes the voltage across the power amplifier 118. Since V_{PA} is substantially constant, E is substantially and directly proportional to V_S . 15 Hence, for providing a certain amount of energy, one would require a longer heating time at low V_S levels, and a shorter heating time at high V_S levels.

The amount of energy required for heating infra red emitter 120 to this temperature may depend on the heat dissipation 20 ~~JKRKH~~ characteristics of infra red emitter 120. The micro-controller 116 adds | respective considerations when heat dissipation is significant.

Micro-controller 116 determines a pulse, operates power amplifier 118 to produce such a pulse, and provides the pulse to infra red

emitter 120. Indicator 122 can be operated to provide an indication signal, respective of the operation of the emitter, an indication of the mode which the apparatus currently operates, and the like. The indication signal can be visual, audible, and the like.

5 Apparatus 110 further includes power management means, which maintain a stable mode of operation as well as providing protection against undesired discharge of the power cell, where one is used.

When micro-controller 116 detects that V_s has dropped below a predetermined threshold $V_{THRESHOLD}$, it can execute a cut-off procedure.

10 The cut-off procedure shuts down apparatus 110, thereby reducing potential damage thereto. Such a damage can be caused by a complete discharge of the power cell, which is exceptionally significant for Lithium-ion power cells.

Reference is further made to Figure 3, which is a schematic
15 illustration of a method for operating the system 110 of Figure 2, operative in accordance with a further preferred embodiment of the present invention.

In step 130, a heating temperature to which the emitting element of the emitter has to be heated, is determined. The heating temperature is
20 determined according to the required wavelengths. Accordingly, the determination procedure can also take into account particular characteristics of the emitter. With reference to Figure 2, micro-controller 116 determines the heating temperature. It is noted that this temperature

can further be predetermined and stored in a memory section within micro-controller 116, or set manually.

In step 132, the voltage level of the power signal, which will be used for heating, is detected. With reference to Figure 2, micro-controller 5 116 detects the voltage level V_S of the power cell, and reduces environmental effects such as the voltage gap across power amplifier 118, and the like, thereby fixing the voltage level $V_S - V_{PA}$ of the power signal.

In step 134, a heating time period T_H is determined. This time period is determined according to the detected power signal voltage level 10 $V_S - V_{PA}$, the target heating temperature, and the characteristics of the infra red emitter 120, such as power efficiency, heat capacitance, power yield, and the like. It is noted that the target temperature can be maintained for a predetermined period of time, by applying a respective voltage level lower than the power signal voltage level $V_S - V_{PA}$.

15 In step 136, a cooling time period T_C is determined according to the target heating temperature, the characteristics of the emitter and other requirements. The cooling time period determines the next point in time, where a new heating-cooling cycle can commence. With reference to Figure 2, both steps 134 and 136 are performed by micro-controller 116.

20 In step 138, a pulse is produced from the power signal according to the heating time period and the cooling time period. With reference to Figure 2, power amplifier 118 produces a power signal pulse of V_S for T_H , and V_C for T_C , where V_C can be zero.

In step 140, a periodic infra red light is emitted. With reference to Figure 2, infra red emitter 120, heated to the target heating temperature, emits a short pulse of light and cools down. It is noted that this method can be generalized for complex sequences, produced by a plurality of emitters in many modes, as will be described herein below.

Reference is now made to Figure 4, which is schematic illustration of a system, generally referenced 150, constructed and operative in accordance with another preferred embodiment of the present invention. System 150 includes a power source 152, a pulse driver 154 and a pulsable emitter array 156. Pulse driver 154 is coupled to power source 152 and to pulsable emitter array 156.

Pulsable emitter array 156 includes a plurality of pulsable emitters 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 181, 182, 183, 184 and 185. Pulsable emitters 161, 162, 163, 164 and 165 are coupled parallel to each other and form a group 160. Pulsable emitters 171, 172, 173, 174 and 175 are coupled parallel to each other and form a group 170. Pulsable emitters 181, 182, 183, 184 and 185 are coupled parallel to each other and form a group 180. Groups 160, 170 and 180 are coupled to pulse driver 154. It is noted that pulsable emitter array 156 can include any number of groups, and each group can include any number of pulsable emitters.

Power source 152 provides electrical power to pulse driver 154. Pulse driver 154 produces a predetermined set of repetitive electrical

pulses and provides them to pulsable emitter array 156. Pulse driver 154 can operate pulsable emitter array 156 in three different modes: a simultaneous mode, a synchronous mode and a combination of simultaneous and synchronous modes.

5 In the simultaneous mode, the system provides the same pulse to each of groups 160, 170 and 180, which in turn produce periodic infrared radiation at the same time. In the synchronous mode, the system provides a different pulse to each of groups 160, 170 and 180, which in turn produce periodic infrared radiation one after the other.

10 Reference is now made to Figure 5, which is a schematic illustration of an infrared radiation emitter, generally referenced 200, constructed and operative in accordance with a further preferred embodiment of the present invention. Infrared radiation emitter 200 includes a mounting package 202 with two conductive poles 204 and 206, 15 feed-through seals 208, a reflector 210 with cutouts 212 and an emitting element 214. Infrared radiation emitter 200 further includes a sealing case 216, which incorporates a window 218.

Window 218 can be made of a material, which is transparent to mid Infrared radiation (3-5 micron), and long infrared radiation (8-12 micron). Window 218 can be made of germanium, zinc-selenide, silicon, and the like. Window 218 can be constructed as a lens, for further directing the emitted light in predetermined directions. Hence, the material

from which window 218 is made of, filters out light in undesired wavelengths.

Reflector 210 reflects the infrared radiation produced by emitting element 214. Reflector 210 can be parabolic, elliptic or planar. In the example set forth in Figure 5, reflector 210 has a parabolic shape. Reflector 210 can be made of aluminum, coated with a reflective materials such as gold and silver. Conductive poles 204 and 206 provide electrical connection as well as structural rigidity to emitting element 214. Emitting element 214 can be welded to conductive poles 204 and 206.

Emitting element 214 is made of a wire with a diameter, approximately in the range of 0.003" and 0.030". It is noted that a wire having a diameter close to 0.003" will be weaker than a wire having a larger diameter. Alternatively, a wire having a diameter close to 0.030" will have a slow response to heating, and hence exhibit a low modulation depth.

In the example set forth in Figure 5, emitting element 214 is a coil made of 0.010" diameter wire having 10-11 rolls (windings). It is noted that the coil can have between 4 and 20 rolls and more. The diameter of each roll can be in the range approximately between 0.040" and 0.150". The gap between every two rolls can be in the range of approximately 0.003" and 0.040". Accordingly, in the example shown in Figure 5, each roll has a diameter of 0.085" and the gap between every two rolls is 0.010". Hence, emitting element 214 has a high mechanical strength, and

a high power electrical pulse can heat emitting element 214 to up to 1500 degrees Celsius.

It is noted that emitting element 214 can be a wire devoid of any rolls. In this case, system 200 operates at a lower radiation efficiency, 5 because the effective area of radiation is smaller than that of an emitting element having rolls.

Reference is now made to Figure 6, which is a schematic illustration of a high power infrared radiation emitter, generally referenced 250, constructed and operative in accordance with another preferred embodiment of the present invention. Infrared radiation emitter 250 includes a mounting platform 252, with two conductive poles 254 and 256, insulating seals 258, a reflector 260 and an emitting element 264. Reflective 260 can be parabolic, elliptic, plane, and the like. Emitter 250 further includes a sealing case 270, which incorporates a window 272. 15 Window 272 is analogous to window 218 as described herein above in connection with Figure 5.

Emitting element 264 is made of a filament wire in the shape of a narrow strip of foil, having a length of approximately 0.40". It is noted, that for high power applications, a strip of foil, having a length close to 20 0.80" would be structurally too weak and will have a significantly reduced life span. Alternatively, the emitting area of a strip of foil, having a length less than 0.20" would be too small.

Accordingly, the strip of foil has a width, which can be in the range of approximate 0.020" and 0.060" and can have a thickness, in the range of approximately 0.00020" and 0.00060". It is noted, that a strip of foil having a thickness close to 0.00020" can not handle power inputs of
5 more than 2 Watts. Alternatively, the strip of foil having a thickness of more than 0.00060" does not allow pulse operation in a high modulation rate.

In the example set forth in Figure 6, emitting element 264 is a narrow strip of thin metallic nichrome foil having a width of 0.040" and a thickness of 0.00050". This design of emitting element 264 can operate at power levels of 10 Watts. It is noted that other alloys with similar characteristics can also be used, depending on the required implementation.
10

Reference is further made to Figures 7A, 7B, and 7C. Figure 7A
15 is a schematic illustration of a long-range multi-directional case, generally referenced 300, constructed and operative in accordance with a further preferred embodiment of the present invention. Figure 7B is a schematic illustration of a long-range omni-directional case, generally referenced 310, constructed and operative in accordance with another preferred embodiment of the present invention. Figure 7C is a schematic illustration
20 of a medium-range omni-directional case, generally referenced 320, constructed and operative in accordance with a further preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Cases 300, 310, and 320 have holes 302, 312, and 322, respectively, in which Infrared emitters are placed. Each of the cases 300, 310 and 320 can include four, fifteen and five infrared emitters, respectively, or any other number of infrared emitters. Cases 300, 310, and 320 can be made of any semi-rigid material, such as metal, ceramic plastic, and the like.

In the examples set forth in Figures 7A, 7B, and 7C, the cases 300, 310, and 320 are made of aluminum.

It will be appreciated by persons skilled in the art that the present invention is not limited to what has been particularly shown and described hereinabove. Rather the scope of the present invention is defined only by the claims, which follow.

CLAIMS

1. Emitter controller comprising:
 - a controller, connected to a power source; and
 - a power amplifier connected to said controller, said power source and an emitter,
 - 5 said controller providing a pulse sequence to said power amplifier for operating said emitter, said controller determining said pulse sequence according to an available power voltage level.

- 10 2. The emitter controller according to claim 1, further comprising a voltage regulator connected to said controller and to said power source, providing voltage regulated power to said controller.
- 15 3. The emitter controller according to claim 2, further comprising a voltage multiplier connected between said voltage regulator and said power source, said voltage multiplier receiving a power signal from said power source, multiplying the voltage level of said power signal by a predetermined factor and providing a voltage multiplied power signal to said voltage regulator.
- 20 4. The emitter controller according to claim 1, wherein said controller provides a power cut command to said power amplifier to cease

operation of said emitter when said available power voltage level is lower than a predetermined minimal voltage level.

5 5. The emitter controller according to claim 1, further comprising an indicator connected to said controller, said power source and to said emitter, for indicating the mode of operation of said emitter.

10 6. The emitter controller according to claim 5, wherein said indicator type is selected from the list consisting of:

15 visual; and
audible.

15 7. The emitter controller according to claim 1, wherein said power amplifier periodically heats said emitter.

15 8. Method for operating an emitter controller, comprising the steps of:
detecting a voltage level of a power signal to be provided to an
emitter connected to said emitter controller;
determining a heating time period according to said detected
voltage level, and a target heating temperature; and
producing a pulse signal according to said heating time period,
for operating an amplifier connected between said emitter and said
emitter controller, at said detected voltage level. .

9. The method according to claim 8, further comprising the step of determining a cooling time period according to said target heating temperature and to the characteristics of said emitter.

5

10. The method according to claim 9, wherein said pulse signal is further produced according to said cooling time period.

10 11. The method according to claim 8, further comprising the step of emitting a periodic infra red radiation according to said pulse signal.

12. The method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of emitting a periodic infra red radiation according to said pulse signal.

15 13. The method according to claim 8, further comprising the step of determining said target heating temperature.

14. Emitter system comprising:

an infra red emitter;

20 a controller, to be connected to a power source; and
a power amplifier connected to said controller, said power source and to said emitter,

said controller providing a pulse sequence to said power amplifier for operating said emitter, said controller determining said pulse sequence according to an available power voltage level.

5 15. The emitter system according to claim 14, further comprising a
voltage regulator connected to said controller and to said power
source, providing voltage regulated power to said controller.

10 16. The emitter system according to claim 15, further comprising a
voltage multiplier connected between said voltage regulator and said
power source, said voltage multiplier receiving a power signal from
said power source, multiplying the voltage level of said power signal
by a predetermined factor and providing a voltage multiplied power
signal to said voltage regulator.

15 17. The emitter system according to claim 14, wherein said controller
provides a power cut command to said power amplifier to cease
operation of said infra red emitter when said available power voltage
level is lower than a predetermined minimal voltage level.

20 18. The emitter controller according to claim 14, further comprising an
indicator connected to said controller, said power source and to said

infra red emitter, for indicating the mode of operation of said infra red emitter.

19. The emitter controller according to claim 18, wherein said indicator

5 type is selected from the list consisting of:

visual; and

audible.

20. The emitter system according to claim 14, further comprising a power

10 source connected to said controller and to said power amplifier.

21. The emitter system according to claim 16, further comprising a power

source connected to said controller, said voltage multiplier and to
said power amplifier.

15

22. The emitter system according to claim 14, wherein said infra red

emitter comprises:

a reflective base;

two conductive poles, emerging from said reflective base,

20 electrically insulated from said reflective base;

a high emissivity wire, electrically connected between said conductive poles, emitting infra red radiation when conducting electrical current provided through said conductive poles; and

a housing,
said reflective base including a reflective surface.

23. The emitter system according to claim 22, wherein said housing
5 further includes a window, said reflective surface directs said infra
red radiation toward said window.

24. The emitter system according to claim 22, wherein said high
10 emissivity wire is made of a filament wire.

25. The emitter system according to claim 24, wherein said filament wire
is of a length in the range of 0.20 inches and 0.60 inches.

15 26. The emitter system according to claim 24, wherein said filament wire
is of a length of 0.40 inches.

27. The emitter system according to claim 24, wherein said filament wire
is of a width in the range of 0.020 inches and 0.060 inches.

20 28. The emitter system according to claim 24, wherein said filament wire
is of a thickness in the range of 0.00020 inches and 0.00060 inches.

29. The emitter system according to claim 22, wherein said high emissivity wire forms the shape of a helix.

30. The emitter system according to claim 29, wherein said high emissivity wire has a diameter in the range of 0.003 inches and 0.030 inches.

31. The emitter system according to claim 29, wherein said helix shape of said high emissivity wire includes a plurality of windings, the number of said windings being in the range of four windings and fifty windings.

32. The emitter system according to claim 23, wherein said window is made of a transparent material.

33. The emitter system according to claim 23, wherein said window is made of a semi-transparent material.

34. The emitter system according to claim 23, wherein said window is made of a material which is transparent to mid Infrared radiation.

35. The emitter system according to claim 23, wherein said window is made of a material which is transparent to long Infrared radiation.

36. The emitter system according to claim 23, wherein said window is
made of a material which is selected from the list consisting of:

germanium;

5 zinc;

zinc-selenide; and

silicon.

37. The emitter system according to claim 23, wherein said window
10 comprises a lens.

38. Infra red emitter comprising:

a reflective base;

two conductive poles, emerging from said reflective base,
15 electrically insulated from said reflective base;

a high emissivity wire, electrically connected between said
conductive poles, emitting infra red radiation when conducting
electrical current provided through said conductive poles; and

a housing,

20 said reflective base including a reflective surface.

39. The emitter system according to claim 38, wherein said housing further includes a window, said reflective surface directs said infra red radiation toward said window.

5 40. The infra red emitter according to claim 38, wherein said high emissivity wire is made of filament wire.

41. The infra red emitter according to claim 40, wherein said filament wire is of a length in the range of 0.20 inches and 0.60 inches.

10

42. The infra red emitter according to claim 40, wherein said filament wire is of a length of 0.40 inches.

15

43. The infra red emitter according to claim 40, wherein said filament wire is of a width in the range of 0.020 inches and 0.060 inches.

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44. The infra red emitter according to claim 40, wherein said filament wire is of a thickness in the range of 0.00020 inches and 0.00060 inches.

45. The infra red emitter according to claim 38, wherein said high emissivity wire forms the shape of a helix.

46. The infra red emitter according to claim 45, wherein said high emissivity wire has a diameter in the range of 0.003 inches and 0.030 inches.

5 47. The infra red emitter according to claim 45, wherein said helix shape of said high emissivity wire includes a plurality of windings, the number of said windings being in the range of four windings and fifty windings.

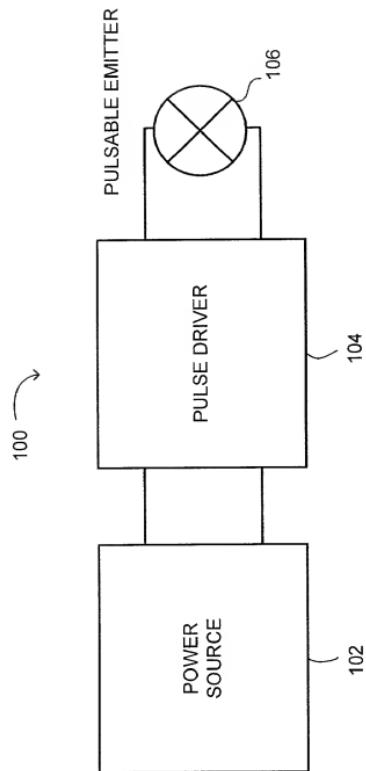
ABSTRACT

Emitter controller including a controller, and a power amplifier,
the controller being connected to a power source, the power amplifier
5 being connected to the controller, the power source and to an emitter, the
controller providing a pulse sequence to the power amplifier for operating
the emitter, the controller determining the pulse sequence according to an
available power voltage level.

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FIG.1



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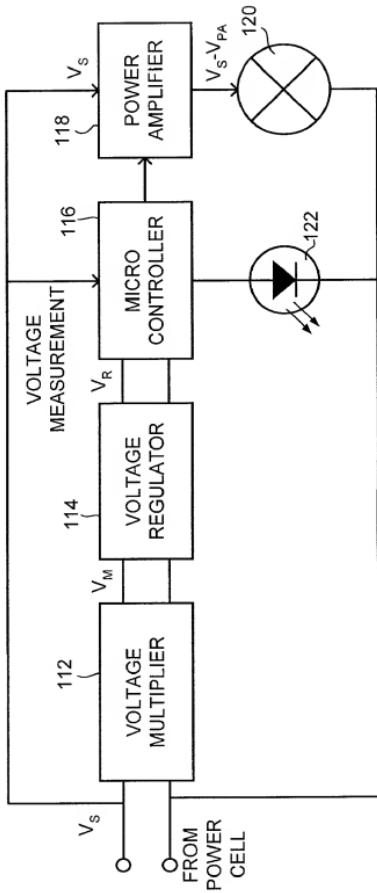


FIG. 2

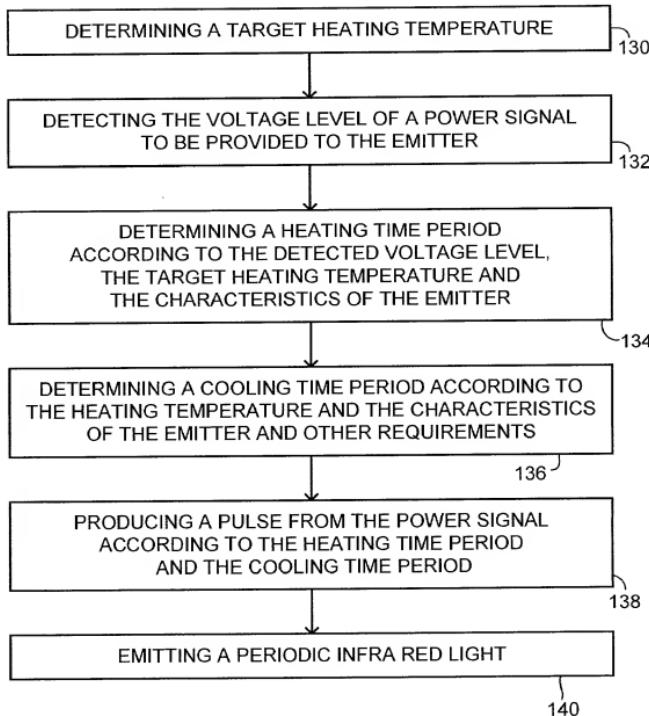


FIG. 3

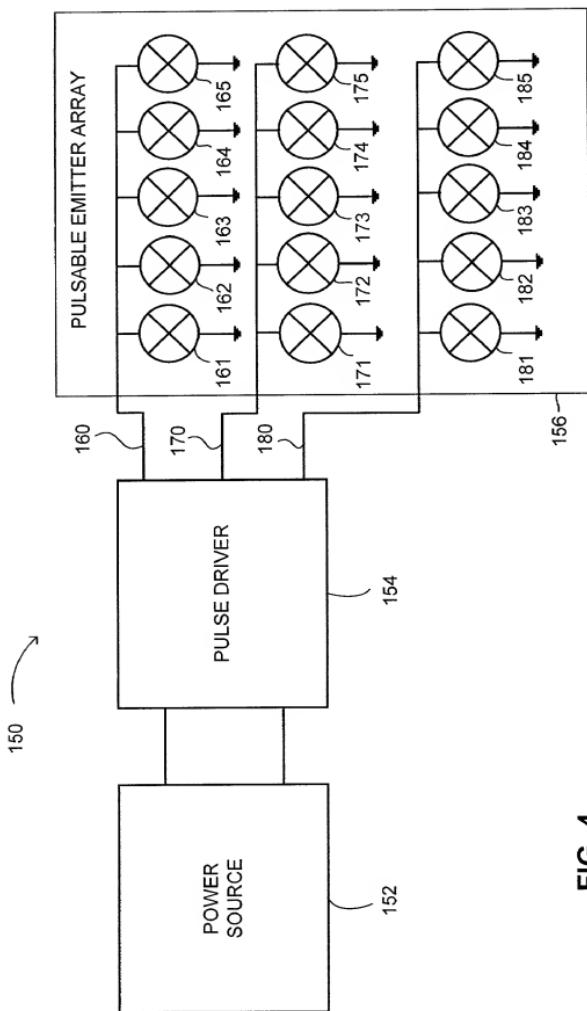


FIG. 4

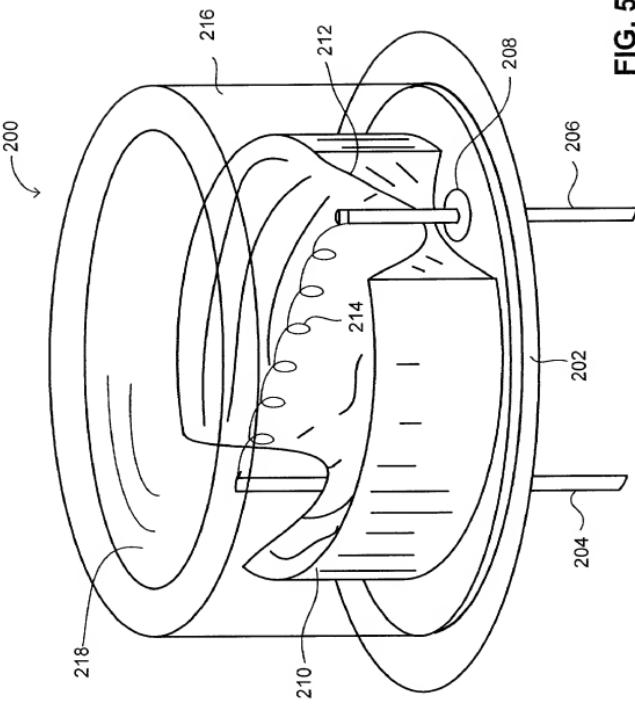


FIG. 5

FIG. 6

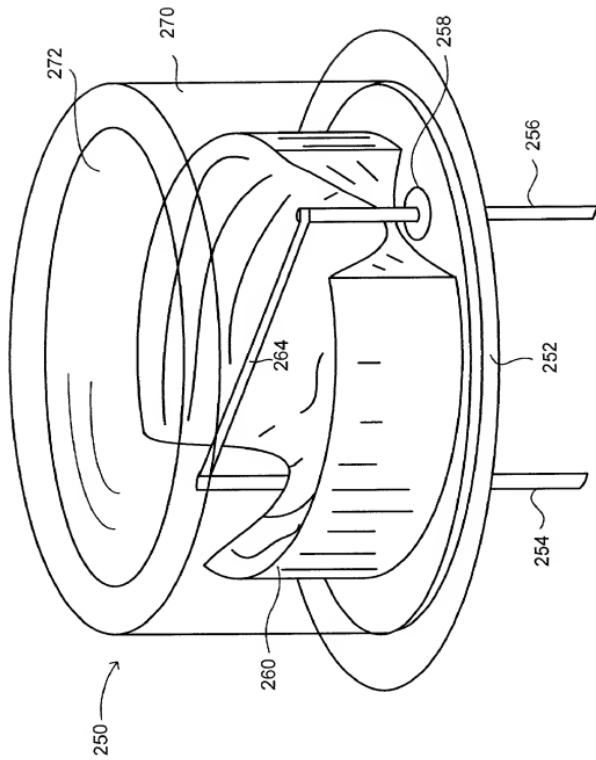


FIG. 7A

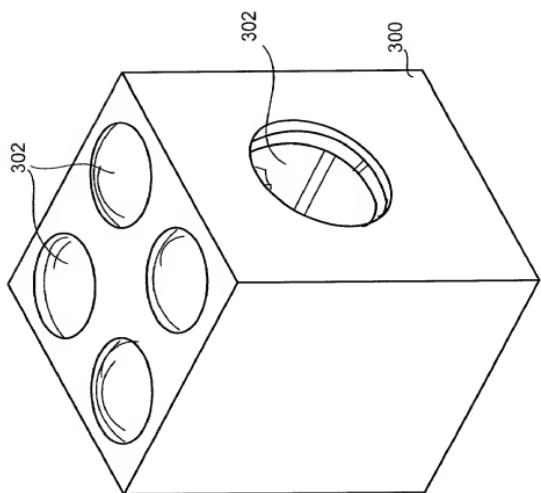


FIG. 7C

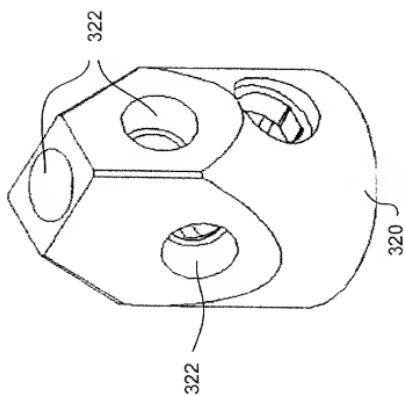
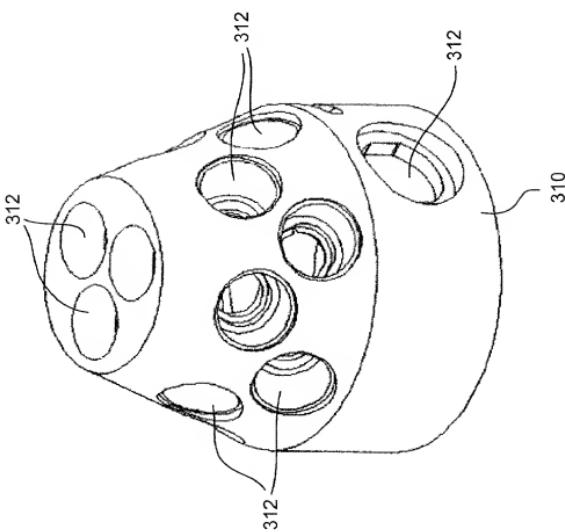


FIG. 7B



MERCHANT, GOULD, SMITH, EDELL, WELTER & SCHMIDT

United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **MARKER**

The specification of which

a. is attached hereto

b. was filed on _____ as application serial no. _____ and was amended on _____ (if applicable) (in the case of a PCT-filed application) described and claimed in international no. _____ filed _____ and as amended on _____ (if any) which I have reviewed and for which I solicit a United States patent.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (attached hereto).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

a. no such applications have been filed.

b. such applications have been filed as follows:

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented pending abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark office connected herewith:

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Anderson, Gregg L. - Reg. No. 28,828
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Beard, John L. - Reg. No. 27,612
Berman, Charles - Reg. No. 29,249
Black, Bruce E. - Reg. No. 41,622
Blasdell, Thomas L. - Reg. No. 31,329
Bogucki, Raymond A - Reg. No. 17,426
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Gould, John D. - Reg. No. 18,223
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Gresens, John J. - Reg. No. 33,112
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Kettelberger, Denise - Reg. No. 33,924
Knearl, Homer L. - Reg. No. 21,197
Komanduri, Janaki - Reg. No. 40,684
Kowalchyk, Alan W. - Reg. No. 31,535
Kowalchyk, Katherine M. - Reg. No. 36,848
Kubota, Glenn M. - Reg. No. P-44,197

Lacy, Paul E. - Reg. No. 38,946
Larson, James A. - Reg. No. 40,443
Liepa, Mara E. - Reg. No. 40,066
Lindquist, Timothy A. - Reg. No. 40,701
Lynch, David W. - Reg. No. 36,204
Marschang, Diane L. - Reg. No. 35,600
McDaniel, Karen D. - Reg. No. 37,674
McDonald, Daniel W. - Reg. No. 32,044
McIntyre, Iain A. - Reg. No. 40,337
McKenzie, Denise L. - Reg. No. P-43,790
Mueller, Douglas P. - Reg. No. 30,300
Nasiedlak, Tyler L. - Reg. No. 40,099
Nelson, Albin J. - Reg. No. 28,650
Parker, Sandra M. - Reg. No. 36,233
Pauly, Daniel M. - Reg. No. 40,123
Phillips, John B. - Reg. No. 37,206
Plunkett, Theodore - Reg. No. 37,209
Pytel, Melissa J. - Reg. No. 41,512
Reich, John C. - Reg. No. 37,703
Reland, Earl D. - Reg. No. 25,767
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Schmaltz, David G. - Reg. No. 39,828
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Schumann, Michael D. - Reg. No. 30,422
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Trembath, Jon R. - Reg. No. 38,344
Underhill, Albert L. - Reg. No. 27,403
Vandenburgh, J. Derek - Reg. No. 32,179
Vadenburgh, Anna M. - Reg. No. 39,868
Welter, Paul A. - Reg. No. 20,890
Whipps, Brian - Reg. No. 43,261
Wickhem, J. Scot - Reg. No. 41,376
Williams, Douglas J. - Reg. No. 27,054
Witt, Jonelle - Reg. No. 41,980
Wood, Gregory B. - Reg. No. 28,133
Wood, William J. - Reg. No. 42,236
Xu, Min S. - Reg. No. 39,536

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant, Gould, Smith, Edell, Welter & Schmidt to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant, Gould, Smith, Edell, Welter & Schmidt at the address indicated below:

Merchant, Gould, Smith, Edell,
Welter & Schmidt
3200 IDS Center
80 South Eighth Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402, USA

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Name of Inventor	Family Name INBAR	First Given Name Eran	Second Given Name
0	Residence & Citizenship	City Tel Aviv	State or Foreign Country Israel	Country of Citizenship Israel
1	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 21 Ranak Street	City Tel Aviv	State & Zip Code/Country 63464
Signature of Inventor 201 			Date:	Nov - 15 - 00

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application

*believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or
being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim:

- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

- (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

- (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;

- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.